



United States Department of the Interior

KENAI NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

P.O. Box 2139
Soldotna, Alaska 99669-2139
(907) 262-7021



IN REPLY REFER TO:

14-012

August 12, 2014

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Kenai National Wildlife Refuge

TELEPHONE: (907) 262-7021

Email: kenai@fws.gov

SUBJECT: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Announces Proposed Temporary Closure of Sport Hunting of Brown Bears on the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) today announced a proposed temporary closure of sport hunting of brown bears on the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge). The temporary closure would be implemented as a resource protection measure to ensure consistency with Refuge purposes. The closure would be effective September 1, 2014 through May 31, 2015. Additional information on the proposed temporary closure can be found at the following website: <http://www.fws.gov/alaska/>

The Service is currently accepting written comments on the proposed temporary closure. Written comments may be submitted by mail to: Refuge Manager, P.O. Box 2139, Soldotna, AK 99669; by fax to 907-262-3599 (attention Refuge Manager), or by email to kenai@fws.gov. Written comments will be accepted through August 27, 2014.

In addition, the Service will hold public hearings to provide notice of and additional information on the proposed temporary closure. The public hearings will be held at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Regional Office, 1011 East Tudor Road, Anchorage on Tuesday August 26, 2014, and at the Soldotna Sports Center, Kalifornsky Beach Road, Soldotna on Wednesday August 27, 2014. Both hearings will be held from 6-9pm. The Service will be accepting both verbal and written testimony at the hearings.

For additional information, please contact the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge office during regular business hours at (907) 262-7021.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service works with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. For more information, visit www.fws.gov, or connect with us through any of these social media at <http://www.fws.gov/home/socialmedia/index.html>.